

Avatar 1221

Chapter 1221: Lucky Steamed Bun

The crowd clapped!

The deep mind games and probing from both Ye Xiu and Ge Caijie weren't really understood too well by the crowd, but those who were sitting right spot noticed Lord Grim switching umbrella forms.

Truthfully, when they saw it, because the movement was too fast, the ones who saw it didn't really know what happened. Luckily, the two players in the match spoke to each other and revealed the important points in the match. As a result, when the reveal came out, quite a few crowd members suddenly remembered and yelled out excitedly, "I saw it! I saw it!"

They realized that the movement they saw was Lord Grim switching umbrella forms.

"I saw it once!"

"I saw it twice!"

"I saw it three times!"

"Four times!"

People started competing with each other, and it quickly got to the point where it just became empty shouting. Weapons couldn't be switched too often because there was a cooldown. The Myriad Manifestation Umbrella's most important feature was that switching forms allowed it to bypass this issue. In this 1v1, the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella had been switched out at least twice. He had used the Level 70 umbrella at the start of the match, used the Level 5 umbrella when he feigned an opening, and then switched back to the Level 70 one afterwards.

In any case, Ge Caijie lost the match. This was Happy's home stadium too, so the applause was thunderous. What's more, this was another strong opening, foretelling that Happy's momentum would continue tonight. After achieving a perfect win over Team Miracle in Round 9, who was the happiest about Happy's crazy winning streak? Happy's fans of course! The number of seats filled in Happy's home games increased round after round. More and more people were starting to seriously recognize Team Happy's strength.

10-0!

The crowd cheered for a 10-0. For a new team facing a frequent playoffs contender like Void to have shouts for a 10-0, Happy's position in the league nowadays could clearly be seen. Happy could beat Hundred Blossoms 9-1, Misty Rain 10-0, so why couldn't they beat Void 10-0 too? The fans reasoned it in this way.

However, whether Happy won the second round of the individual competition wasn't something Ye Xiu could influence. Steamed Bun. Team Happy's second player to be sent out was already standing up, jogging excitedly over towards the stage.

"10-0!" Steamed Bun hollered along with the crowd. The crowd instantly became even more fired up.

Team Void. Their second player was Li Xun, an Assassin, his character was called Ghost Lantern.

Li Xun was also a rather popular player. He was currently the only Assassin player who liked to use Life-Risking Strike for a one hit KO. Starting from Season 5, ever since he joined Team Void, he was obsessed with the thrill of an instant kill.

But he was the only Assassin player like this, which wasn't without reason. In the current state of Glory, the chances of finding an opening for a Life-Risking Strike were becoming smaller and smaller. Even if Li Xun refused to give up on it, he could not stubbornly revolve his entire playstyle around it. Life-Risking Strike was a method only used when he saw an opportunity for it, or perhaps in certain situations, he would be more willing than other Assassins to gamble everything.

As a result, he wasn't suitable for playing in the group arena, so Li Xun quickly consolidated a spot for himself in the individual competition.

The second round of the individual competition began. The map was Nine Pine Forest, which had nine pine trees distributed across the map. There was nothing else besides those pine trees. Because it was a 1v1 map, the size of the map was very small, so these nine pine trees filled up a lot of the space, allowing for numerous tactics through their positions.

But from the looks of these two, it seemed like neither of them had any intentions of finding a strategic spot on a large pine tree. The two ran straight towards the center of the map, where two pine trees neighbored each other, and started fighting.

A brick to start with.

"Old trick!" Li Xun shouted. This Assassin, who loved one hit kills, was also someone who liked to talk. He tried to use words to distract his opponent's attention to make it easier for him to realize his pursuit of a one hit kill. This was the general consensus towards Li Xun's trash talk.

As for Steamed Bun, from the data on him, initiating with a Brick was practically guaranteed. As someone who liked to trash talk, how could Li Xun not say anything about it?

"Haha, then do you dare stand there and let me hit you with a brick?" Steamed Bun replied. Steamed Bun's trash talk was always the same, swift responses without any thought behind them. In more normal conversations, he might suddenly say something off the rails. Steamed Bun's trash talk talent was something Li Xun needed. The sort of crazy talk that left the opponent utterly confused was much more effective at diverting the opponent's attention than ordinary trash talk.

While the two talked, Li Xun's Ghost Lantern dodged the brick and dashed over with a Shining Cut. He was taking the initiative.

Steamed Bun's reaction wasn't slow. He immediately had Steamed Bun Invasion jump back and open his palms.

Ghost Lantern nimbly leapt to the side to dodge the Sand Toss.

Shadow Clone Technique!

This was a Ninja skill that could be used as an instant movement skill. All Night Walker classes would want to learn it. Li Xun suddenly used it at this moment, and Ghost Lantern instantly appeared behind Steamed Bun Invasion. The crowd cried out in fear.

Life-Risking Strike?

It looked like it could be used, but if Li Xun was so trigger happy with his Life-Risking Strike, Team Void probably wouldn't support his playstyle. Li Xun's Life-Risking Strikes didn't always succeed, but the success rate was relatively high. Team Void could benefit from it, which was why they firmly supported him.

The match had just begun, and he had gotten behind his opponent with a Shadow Clone Technique. Was he going to use Life-Risking Strike?

As someone who loved this type of extremely dangerous playstyle, Li Xun was clearly someone who liked to take risks. However, the problem was that using Life-Risking Strike in this situation wasn't a question of risk. Instantly killing a full-health Brawler with a Life-Risking Strike was impossible. Even if Li Xun had his Assassin Ghost Lantern stack health because of his playstyle, Brawlers were a plate armor class. Their health growth was 3.5, which wasn't bad among the 24 classes. On the other hand, the Brawlers were weak in their Spirit stat, which only had a 1.5 growth for them.

The key point was that he couldn't instant kill him. If Steamed Bun Invasion had been a Summoner or an Elementalist, Ghost Lantern might really have just used Life-Risking Strike.

Cutthroat!

It was a fast low-level skill, but a back attack gave it a considerable increase in damage.

Cold light swiped towards Steamed Bun's neck. This attack was just the beginning. What followed would certainly be a combo. If done well, he might even be able to end it with a Life-Risking Strike and end it one go.

Those familiar with Li Xun and those who supported him were all hoping for this scene to happen.

However, the Cutthroat missed!

Steamed Bun Invasion suddenly crouched, dodging the attack.

What incredible awareness!

Everyone sighed one after the other. He saw through Shadow Clone Technique and even predicted a back attack!

What's more, he crouched, which meant that he could immediately counter attack!

Sure enough!

Steamed Bun Invasion rushed forward.

Tyrannical Chain Punch! He directly let loose a powerful skill!

Everyone watched in astonishment as the crouching Steamed Bun Invasion rushed forward and pinned Ghost Lantern's shadow clone to the ground. But before Steamed Bun could even punch, Ghost Lantern's shadow clone poofed into smoke.

"Huh?" Steamed Bun was puzzled.

The entire crowd was dumbstruck.

"What are you doing?" Li Xun was dumbfounded as well. He didn't even have Ghost Lantern pursue him after the Cutthroat despite having the opportunity to do so. This Tyrannical Chain Punch was making his head spin.

There was no need to doubt Steamed Bun's speed, and Li Xun, who was his opponent, could sense that this Tyrannical Chain Punch had started sooner than his Cutthroat. If Steamed Bun Invasion had turned around and used it, then dodging the Cutthroat would have actually been extraneous. He reckoned that he would have a difficult time dodging this Tyrannical Chain Punch. However, Steamed Bun actually didn't realize that he had used a Shadow Clone Technique and wasted a high-level skill on a shadow clone. Of course, that was probably why his Tyrannical Chain Punch had been faster than his Cutthroat. Steamed Bun didn't know there was a threat behind him, so he immediately pounced on his opponent up ahead.

Li Xun didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Truthfully, he hadn't even thought that his opponent wouldn't notice the Shadow Clone Technique. After all, his character wasn't a Ninja, and the only below Level 20 Ninja skill that required hand seals was Shadow Clone Technique. Even though Li Xun would do his best to hide it, pro players had sharp eyes. Such an irregular motion on an Assassin was very easy to notice.

But today, he had actually met someone who failed to notice it.

"So it was a Shadow Clone Technique. You punk. I got tricked." Steamed Bun Invasion climbed back up from the ground and turned around, glaring at Ghost Lantern behind him.

All sorts of thoughts ran through Li Xun's mind. He had no idea how to respond.

"You really got lucky..." Li Xun said.

"Luck? That's a part of skill," Steamed Bun said. He was clearly just going along with it. He had no clue what had just happened.

"Lose! You're a bringer of bad luck!" Steamed Bun's godly logic turned "you got lucky" into Li Xun being a bringer of bad luck. Steamed Bun Invasion charged forward.

"Let's see just how lucky you are!" Li Xun shouted. Ghost Lantern activated Swift Movement and then started sprinting. He moved so fast that there seemed to be a trail of dust behind him. In the blink of an eye, he reached Steamed Bun Invasion's side.

Leaping Blade!

Ghost Lantern's dagger flicked upwards. Leaping Blade was the Assassin's knockup skill.

Steamed Bun Invasion turned around and swung his arms, Slapping the dagger aside.

This guy! His hand speed and reaction speed weren't slow, but he himself seemed a bit stupid. He's definitely a good prey for a one hit kill.

Li Xun rapidly thought to himself. In this day and age, an opportunity for a one hit kill was something that had to be created. Finding someone as naturally stupid as this person was too hard to find in the pro scene.

Perfect prey!

Chapter 1222: One Hit Certain Kill

Heart-Piercing Stab!

After the Leaping Blade was slapped aside, Ghost Lantern immediately followed with a Heart-Piercing Strike that stabbed towards Steamed Bun Invasion's chest.

Steamed Bun Invasion stepped diagonally to avoid it and swung his arm horizontally, latching onto Ghost Lantern's neck. Tiger Flips the Mountain.

A huge amount of power surged forth, and Ghost Lantern was flipped into the air. However, a wound also appeared on Steamed Bun Invasion's waist.

Mother and Child Stab!

When Ghost Lantern had been thrown into the air by Tiger Flips the Mountain, Li Xun quickly sneaked in this attack.

It was a trade, but Li Xun was very unhappy with the outcome.

He was someone who liked one hit kills, and Life Risking Strike was an attack that traded health for health, so for him, his health was equivalent to damage. Health was an extraordinarily precious resource, so even though it was an even trade, in his eyes, he had lost out. Li Xun had his own idea of an acceptable trade, but this trade wasn't one.

Steamed Bun didn't care about Li Xun's feelings though. Mother and Child Stab didn't really do anything other than deal damage, so with Ghost Lantern in the air, Steamed Bun Invasion had the initiative. Steamed Bun wouldn't let go of this opportunity and continued his attacks. He leaped up with a Powerful Knee Strike, smashing his knee towards Ghost Lantern.

Ghost Lantern simply jumped to the side while in the air and avoided the attack.

Air Jump. Only Assassins, who had access to this passive skill, had the ability to jump in the air. Other classes could only jump once off the ground. With this double jump, Ghost Lantern dodged the Powerful Knee Strike and returned with a kick downwards towards Steamed Bun Invasion.

Diving Arrow!

The Assassin skill, Diving Arrow, shared a few similarities with the Striker skill, Eagle Stamp. Diving Arrow didn't have as high of a priority, but it was far faster than Eagle Stamp. After the first kick connected, his

two feet kicked him another four times in an instant, forcefully sending Steamed Bun Invasion flying to the side.

For Assassins, as soon as a single hit connected, the following combo would be linked together extremely fast. After the Diving Arrow, Ghost Lantern suddenly left behind an afterimage, flickering to Steamed Bun Invasion's side and piercing him with his dagger.

Flickering Stab!

This Level 65 Assassin skill was a displacement skill, but it was rarely used as a movement skill because the displacement was extremely small. It was only one step, a distance of one unit. But this single step was no different than an instant movement. When an Assassin used Flickering Stab, he might originally have been in front of you, but the attack would come from the side. If the Assassin were to the side of you, then the stab might turn into a back attack. However, more often than not, the Assassin looked to still be one step away, when his dagger was already in your chest.

Steamed Bun Invasion was hit once again. By this time, Ghost Lantern had landed back on the ground. He kicked upwards and struck Steamed Bun Invasion's ankle.

Ankle Break!

It didn't deal much damage, but it lowered the target's movement speed by 30% for 5 seconds. During these 5 seconds, trying to escape from an Assassin's pursuit was nigh impossible.

Splitting Water Stab, Heart Piercing Stab...

All kinds of assassination skills struck Steamed Bun Invasion one after the other. Blood splattered onto the pine tree. In an instant, countless red spots appeared on the surface of the tree.

This really is easy.

Li Xun smirked. Team Void had obviously done their research on Steamed Bun's tendencies. He knew that from time to time, he would make an extremely unusual and surprising move, but under his fast and tight offense, it didn't matter what type of crazy imaginative tricks he had. If there aren't any openings, what can he do?

Blade Storm!

Li Xun used another high-level damage skill. Blood splattered even more crazily.

That's enough.

Li Xun thought to himself. With the Blade Storm, Steamed Bun Invasion was forced back by the momentum.

Steamed Bun Invasion was under hit stun as he slid back, while Ghost Lantern also couldn't move due to the ending lag from Blade Storm. This sort of safe period was often built into high-level skills.

However, players would always try to find a way to get around this safe period to seize the initiative.

As a pro, Li Xun obviously had these thoughts as well. When he used his high-level skill, he had taken the terrain into consideration. The final stab sent Steamed Bun Invasion sliding backwards, but he would

only slide back at most four units before slamming into the pine tree behind him, extending the stun by a tiny amount. More importantly, the distance between the two would stay close, only four units.

This is more than enough!

The experienced Li Xun laughed confidently. His Ghost Lantern used As the Shadow Follows.

As the Shadow Follows was a high-level Assassin movement skill. The user didn't have much control over it though. After picking a location, the character would move at an extremely fast speed towards that location.

As the Shadow Follows to close these four units of distance and then Life-Risking Strike!

When he used As the Shadow Follows, he had thoroughly burned down his health. The damage dealt by this Life Risking Strike would be more than enough to instantly kill Steamed Bun Invasion.

An afterimage was left behind as Ghost Lantern moved three steps. One more step and Steamed Bun Invasion would be dead.

Three steps might have been more ideal. This thought suddenly popped into Li Hua's mind. Because at this moment, he saw Steamed Bun Invasion suddenly move. The hit stun had ended. The extra stun from slamming into the tree hadn't been enough for Ghost Lantern to complete all four steps.

Four steps might not be perfect, but it's enough.

With just a distance of one step, what skill could be faster than As the Shadow Follows? Instant movement skill? Shadow Clone Technique? Substitution Technique? At this distance, there wouldn't be enough time to activate those skills, let alone the fact that Steamed Bun Invasion didn't have access to those skills.

Li Xun loved to take risks, but he never lost his calm. Daring but careful was the reason why he was an outstanding pro player.

One hit certain kill!

Yes, one hit certain kill, but the one to be killed was...

Li Xun looked flabbergasted at the afterimage left behind below the tree. He stared in astonishment at the Steamed Bun Invasion in front of him. The sharp claws on his fists were pierced through his Ghost Lantern's chest.

Li Xun turned around to take a look.

Within this one step, Ghost Lantern had moved one-third of a step, while Steamed Bun Invasion had moved two-thirds of a step.

Thus, Steamed Bun Invasion's attack had been faster. That Life-Risking Strike had been prepared for after that two-thirds of a step.

"Holy shit, I finally got a chance to use it," Li Xun saw Steamed Bun's message in the chat.

Followed by: "Huh? How are you dead? My god, this skill's that powerful??"

This skill's that powerful?

As Li Xun's point of view fell along with Ghost Lantern, he saw that afterimage from below the tree disappear.

Flickering Stab?

Tooth for Tooth?

How long has it been since I used Flickering Stab? He activated Tooth for Tooth at that time? After stealing the skill, he used it just a step before his death and then killed me instead?

If it was Flickering Stab, then for a distance of one step, it was faster than As the Shadow Follows. If this had all been a part of Steamed Bun's plan then Li Xun would have been shocked at how terrifying he was, but seeing Steamed Bun's words, Li Xun could only feel that it was ridiculous. This match was ridiculous. I actually lost like this?

What type of stupid luck was this!!

Li Xun sat there in a daze for a long time. The referee had to come over and remind him.

Li Xun walked out of the player booth. As for the crowd, there were traces of hesitation in their cheers. The problem was Steamed Bun's final words. If he hadn't said those words, everyone would have thought that he had planned everything, waiting there patiently for Li Xun to make his final move. But with those last words, the marvel of this spectacular play instantly disappeared. Everyone had the same thoughts as Li Xun: he won just like that?

In any case, a win was a win. As Happy's supporters, there was no reason not to be happy about a win, right? Even if the win had been so comical and absurd that even the winner didn't really understand the situation. Speaking of which, this winner who didn't understand why he won seemed to be quite happy with this victory. After coming out of the player booth, he ran around the stage once.

"Victory!!!" Steamed Bun yelled.

The crowd cheered and clapped.

"10 to 1!" Steamed Bun shouted.

10 to 1! Everyone echoed his words. But they soon had a realization. What the fuck was 10 to 1?

Fortunately, Steamed Bun immediately noticed his mistake.

"10 to 0!" he corrected himself.

10 to 0! This time, there was no problem and everyone cheered.

After running around in a circle, he bumped into Li Xun, who was coming down from the stage. He went over and extended his hands out without any signs of embarrassment.

"You played well!" Steamed Bun said.

"You... you played well too," Li Xun said. In all honesty, he had wanted to say "you fucker," but the goddamn referee just happened to be nearby.

"Keep trying," Steamed Bun patted him and then ran back to this team. As he passed Team Void, he waved at them. The Team Void players looked at one another, unsure what to do. Luckily, Steamed Bun quickly passed by them.

After finally returning to his team's seats, Steamed Bun celebrated with everyone.

"Mm, as long as you win, it's good," Ye Xiu nodded his head.

For this match, it was too embarrassing to say that this win was due to Steamed Bun's crazy imagination... it could only be said that his Tooth for Tooth, which he had used on Flickering Stab for some inexplicable reason, gave Steamed Bun good luck.

Yes, luck.

The key factor to this win was luck. It was something that could eclipse hard work and talent: luck.

"With this kind of luck, he could have probably won just lying down!" Wei Chen sighed.

These words were somewhat exaggerated, but it could be considered as a strong comment towards that fight.

The loser on Void must be feeling very wronged, right? Ye Xiu looked towards Team Void. But then again, if Li Xun didn't like one hit kills, this sort of luck might not have happened.

In the end, luck only worked when the differences in skill weren't that large. Lying down and winning would never actually happen.

Chapter 1223: The Old General's Way of Winning

Two battles of the individual competition were now over. Whether through luck or strength, Happy now had a 2-0 lead. For this upcoming third match, the digital displays showed the players' names and the players stood up. After a pause from the audience, there was suddenly a small wave of cheers.

"Old Wei, can you really do this?!" In the audience seating near Happy's player area, someone hollered at him.

Wei Chen evidently heard it. He turned in the direction of the shout, swept his gaze over, then lifted his index finger and waggled it in that direction. Void's players were dumbstruck. Waving your index finger wasn't as much of an insult as showing your middle finger, but there was at least some scorn in the gesture. To do this towards your own home audience, what was he thinking?

But what surprised them more was that the audience members whom Wei Chen gestured at, although they were boiling and starting hooting at him, were in an undisguised laughing and joking mood.

Anyone could tell, it wasn't that they didn't support Wei Chen. This was a sort of good-natured teasing between close friends and people who knew each other well. If people didn't have a close enough relationship, they couldn't crack such jokes.

To have such a relationship with fans?

Void's players continued to stare. It seemed somewhat unacceptable, but in their hearts there was a bit of... envy. They didn't have this, thus they felt envy. It was a very natural thing.

In this kind of atmosphere, Wei Chen went onstage. Happy's fans didn't have this same kind of relationship with the other players of Happy. The reason for this was that after everyone became pro players, only Wei Chen still had the air of being close to the earth with them.

Even now, his Windward Formation would still make frequent appearances in the game.

His professional career had only lasted two years, but he had spent over a decade in the Glory game. This was a deeply-ingrained part of his life that had no way of being eliminated. Preventing him from going into the game would be even more difficult than preventing him from smoking.

Windward Formation wasn't an especially famous name, and it was clear that Wei Chen's primary role at Happy was just as a substitute, so he didn't receive much attention. His character in-game wouldn't be surrounded or gawked at to the point where he couldn't move.

Since he was playing the game, he couldn't avoid interactions with other players. So the understanding that many people had of Wei Chen didn't solely come from the Alliance, the team, or the official reports from the media. It came from casual conversations in the guild chat, or chatter from a dungeon raid.

And so Wei Chen became this particularly special pro player. Plus, he also carried a record of his own - he was the oldest pro player to date to participate in the Glory Alliance. People even asked him, since you're still coming to play even now, why did you leave a blank space of so many years?

Wei Chen couldn't answer this question.

He only knew, he stood here now. Even though he couldn't do much anymore, he would still put in his full effort. Because, he was a pro player.

Individual competition round 3, begin.

Happy, Wei Chen, Warlock Windward Formation.

Void, Yang Haoxuan, Launcher Translucent.

Yang Haoxuan, a pro player from Season 7, entering Void's training camp at age 15 and offered a professional contract at age 17 from Team Void. Now, he had worked at Void for four years, and wasn't even 20 yet.

"How young..." Wei Chen sighed.

The battle quickly began. Against a Launcher, Windward Formation's high attack range naturally wasn't much of an advantage, so as soon as the battle began, Wei Chen began strategic movement. He had chosen the map, so of course he was very familiar with it.

And Yang Haoxuan? When the match began, he did the same thing as Wei Chen, strategic movement. His character Translucent also took a roundabout path on the map. He quickly made his way to the center and didn't see the opponent's character, so he instantly understood what was going on.

Boom!

Yang Haoxuan immediately had his Translucent to fire a cannon shot, planning to use the sound to lure Wei Chen to expose the position of his Windward Formation.

But when Wei Chen heard the shot, he didn't look around, instead directly controlling Windward Formation to make a U-turn. Everyone saw that this new direction was exactly the direction towards Translucent's current position. The old veteran's hearing ability was still exceptional.

But after Yang Haoxuan fired this shot, he didn't have Translucent stand there motionlessly. He moved Translucent to a different position with a wider view like an oriole behind a mantis.

The method of luring a snake out of its hole.

Many viewers were used to seeing this kind of strategy. Wei Chen had been around for so many years, would he fall for it?

The audience saw from the omniscient view Wei Chen's Windward Formation, creeping bit by bit toward Translucent's original position.

The crowd was becoming anxious. They worried for Wei Chen, but Wei Chen was just foolishly going ahead, as though this possibility of a trap hadn't even occurred to him.

Windward Formation revealed himself, and the crowd sighed.

Yet Yang Haoxuan didn't begin his attack immediately. This strategy was so low-level that even ordinary players could see through it. Wei Chen had the judgment to make his way here through sound alone, how could he not know this sort of simple strategy? Especially now that he could see that the opponent's character wasn't here, it should be even more obvious to him. So Yang Haoxuan didn't think that Wei Chen was just hastily crashing over here, he had to have some defensive preparations. If he attacked immediately, he felt that the opponent's defenses would be at their highest, and he might not be able to achieve any good effect. Better to hide and wait patiently, wait until the opponent felt that this wasn't a trap and lower his guard.

And so Yang Haoxuan didn't move.

And so Wei Chen spoke. "I'm here already, come out and fight! What are you hiding and dawdling for? You think I'll just let down my guard?"

He's trying to trick me! I'm not moving, thought Yang Haoxuan.

"Yes, I'm talking to you! The one at position 45, 56," Wei Chen said.

Yang Haoxuan jolted, and glanced at the coordinates of his Translucent's position. Indeed: 45, 56.

The crowd burst into applause. What incredible judgment! To predict the opponent's movements so accurately and clearly, this demonstrated an incredible all-around familiarity and understanding of both the map and the opponent!

His coordinates were exposed just like that, Yang Haoxuan felt very awkward, but he knew that right now there were countless people watching them. If he just walked out like this, that would be too humiliating!

As he agonized, Wei Chen continued to yell. "What, you're still not coming out?"

The helpless Yang Haoxuan prepared to control his character to reveal himself...

"Haha, I know, you're actually at 48, 31!" Another message from Wei Chen suddenly jumped out in the chat. Filled with confidence, Windward Formation scurried in that direction.

Fuck!

Just as he was about to charge out, Yang Haoxuan brought himself to a screeching halt.

"This old fox!" Yang Haoxuan's forehead was covered in cold sweat. He had really been just about to reveal himself. Good thing he had spaced out for a moment. It looked like this round, luck was now on Void's side!

After thinking about Wei Chen's final shout of position 48, 31, Yang Haoxuan had Translucent walk out, preparing to carefully circle around and then bombard Windward Formation with continuous heavy firepower.

Yang Haoxuan took several deep breaths, bracing himself for the intense moments to follow.

But the crowd was filled with the sounds of tsking.

"Young people!" someone sighed.

Yang Haoxuan, among the esports players, couldn't be considered young. He was 20 years old, right in the middle generation that was at its peak. But compared to Wei Chen, who was older than him by over a decade, he really was just a young person.

The young person prepared for the upcoming intensity, but suddenly, a Hexagram Prison descended from the sky. Before he had time to dodge, Translucent was already locked in.

Shit!

Yang Haoxuan instantly knew that, in the end, he had been tricked.

Luring the snake out of its hole. Same strategy, different execution. The older the ginger the spicier it was!

With this ambush, Wei Chen gave himself an excellent advantage. And then, after several exchanges in this sneaky and complicated map, he finally defeated Yang Haoxuan.

A win in every individual match, 3-0!

The live crowd became a wave of excitement.

10-0!!

Countless Happy supporters were shouting. To win all of the individual battles, that was the rhythm of a 10-0!

Yang Haoxuan walked out of the competitor booth, downtrodden and depressed as he came offstage; on Happy's side, Wei Chen lingered inside for quite a while.

"That old thing, trying to act dull on the outside, but he's really passionate on the inside!" said someone in the audience, laughing. Because there was a relatively long break between the individual round and the group arena, the judge didn't immediately come to urge him out.

Wei Chen sat in the competitor booth, a cigarette stuck between his fingers, but eyeing the "no smoking" sign above his head, he still didn't dare light it.

"That was close..." Wei Chen's gaze turned to the computer screen, and he looked at Windward Formation's remaining health: 8%.

He won, but it wasn't easy. That ambush early on had greatly succeeded, instantly giving him a 30% health advantage, but in the end, his health had been whittled all the way down to 8%. This made Wei Chen rather unhappy, and in his heart, an agitated voice once again reminded him of that reality.

"I really am old..." Wei Chen said to himself. "And so, this is my win method.

"But 8% or 80%, does that matter? Tch, this isn't the group arena," Wei Chen muttered. He stood up and exited the competitor booth.

When he finally showed his face, the crowd burst into thunderous applause.

"That's right. A win is a win. As long as this is the outcome." Wei Chen smiled, and his heart suddenly felt lighter.

"Old Wei, you did it!!!"

As he walked along the side of the stage, the audience members nearby again cracked jokes with him. Some of them might not have actually known him well, but seeing other people do the same, they felt that Wei Chen was the type of player you could interact with like this, and so they followed along.

Wei Chen didn't disappoint them by refusing interaction. Towards those who were shouting at him, he responded, even cracking some dirty jokes like "this old man's still got it." He gave a wink and proudly and gleefully walked by.

"A small character like that, I can defeat him with a wiggle of my finger." Upon returning to Happy's player area, Wei Chen gestured with the tip of his little finger and spoke.

"Very strong," everyone praised him.

"You really should've given me a spot on the main roster. An old guy like you should rotate out and rest more!" Wei Chen gruffly patted Ye Xiu.

"Thanks!" Ye Xiu laughed. "But I'm still very young!"

"As long as you don't brag, that's best," Wei Chen said.

Chapter 1224: Void's Ghost Duo

"What's wrong, are we planning to lose to Happy 0 to 10?" In Void's player area, looking at the current scoreboard showing Happy: 3, Void: 0, Void's Captain Li Xuan, the one called the number one Phantom Demon, finally couldn't sit around any longer.

As a member of the Golden Generation, he garnered attention in his very first season, and in his second season he gained an exceptional partner and helper. But in six years, what had they achieved?

Even for the little award of Best Partners, he couldn't compete with his fellow player from the Golden Generation, Su Mucheng. He had to wait until Ye Xiu retired and left before he could pick up that award.

The tacit understanding between the Ghost Duo wasn't any less deep than that between Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng. But the value of the Best Partners title wasn't limited to the partnership itself. It also considered how much this partnership brought to the team as a whole.

Void was a frequent participant in the playoffs. And the old Excellent Era? After losing to Tyranny in the finals of Season 4, they had never entered the finals again. On some level, Excellent Era and Void weren't that different in terms of their . But during Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng's many years at Excellent Era, the award for Best Partners always seemed to go to them without any competition at all. Their so-called strongest competitors, the Ghost Duo, had in reality never managed to put any pressure on them at all.

The reason was simple. Void's Ghost Duo, when in direct confrontation against Excellent Era's Long Spear Short Cannon combination, always came up inferior.

They'd never won the championship, they'd never even entered the finals. Even for an individual award like Best Partners, they'd been beaten down for so long. There was no way that Li Xuan felt no anger in his heart. What "number one Phantom Demon"? It sounded cool, but in Li Xuan's opinion? He wasn't even number one in one of the 24 classes of Glory. One of the 24 classes was called Ghostblade, and he, he was only the number one of the Phantom Demon branch of Ghostblade.

There were only around 200 Glory pro players, so on average, each class didn't have more than 10 players. The Ghostblade class was further divided into the three branches of Phantom Demon, Sword Demon, and Phantom Sword, so if they took an average again, there were only three Phantom Demons. And so, Li Xuan was the number one of three people. First among three, was that anything impressive?

To this, Li Xuan could only shake his head and laugh bitterly. Of course, to be the number one Phantom Demon meant that out of the millions of Phantom Demon players in Glory, he was the best. But Li Xuan truly had no interest in using those outside of the pro circle to comfort himself.

Number one was number one.

In the old days, no one said that Ye Qiu was the number one Battle Mage.

Li Xuan also wanted to become a true number one. But after so many years, he was still just the number one Phantom Demon. He couldn't even get the title of number one Ghostblade. But the one who was blocking him from this title was his own teammate, his closest friend and best partner since Season 5, Wu Yuce.

What was up with this?

Sometimes, Li Xuan would mock himself like this.

But even if they were best friends and partners, Li Xuan and Wu Yuze, who was the best Ghostblade player in the end? This question, even Li Xuan himself couldn't help but ponder sometimes.

To be honest, he had no way of giving a clear answer, and the outside world had debated this question for many years, only to find that both sides had their arguments. And within Void? Everyone carefully avoided this question, and when asked by the reporters, the two would by tacit agreement always praise the other as superior. But even so, they wouldn't talk themselves down too much, either. And so everyone could tell, their responses were just out of courtesy. Who was the stronger between the two of them, they themselves never gave a true answer.

For now, judging from their positions in the team and the All-Star vote rankings, Li Xuan was still in the lead. But some people felt that this was only because Li Xuan debuted a year before Wu Yuze, and thus had a head start.

Who was stronger? Who was the true number one Ghostblade?

In the past, Li Xuan had been very sensitive about this topic. Regarding his lead, although he'd never say it aloud, he had been secretly pleased.

But now, after so many years, he was used to it, he was numb to it, he was no longer interested in this question.

What he wanted was to be the true number one, the number one of the league, and not some number one Phantom Demon or Ghostblade.

And the dream of being this number one was too much more difficult than those other number ones.

In the blink of an eye, it was already Season 10 of the Glory Professional Alliance.

Last season, the team promoted a rookie, Ge Caijie, and everyone said that the Ghost Duo finally had a new reliable helper, that they had a lot to look forward to.

Li Xuan also carried such hopes as he entered Season 10.

But up through now, he hadn't seen any sign of his team's strong rise. Void was still struggling against the other second-string strong teams for a spot in the playoffs. And now, Happy, this new team, was actually their direct competitor, and in this current confrontation had a 3-0 lead...

"What is our goal?" Li Xuan said, looking at his teammates.

Void hadn't announced it to the public, but within the team, they felt that their roster was complete, and they had this strong rookie, Ge Caijie. They felt that this season was the season to taste the rhythm of charging for the championships. But playing up until now, they'd lost to Samsara, they'd lost to Wind Howl, they'd lost to Thunderclap, they'd even lost to Miracle. What kind of championship rhythm was this?

They'd lost to Miracle! And it had been their home game!

The seventh round of competition had been a harsh blow for Void.

Then what about now?

"Do we plan on losing 0-10 to Happy?" Li Xuan repeated this question.

"No..." Of course, his teammates could only reply like this.

"If not, then get your spirits up!" Li Xuan said.

"Yes..." everyone answered.

"Zhaolan, you're up!" Li Xuan nodded toward one of the players.

"Yes." Ge Zhaolan nodded and followed the orders to head onstage.

Void's Spitfire was named Transparent. It was instantly apparent that the name had a common source as Yang Haoxuan's Launcher Translucent. Indeed, these two characters were brought into the team by the seniors who established Team Void, and had always stayed in the team. But now, these two characters were just side characters in the team, largely because Void had never found any especially talented players for these two classes.

When Zhang Jiale retired from Hundred Blossoms, the team was caught off-guard and had no plan. They were entirely unable to find a replacement player and could only promote someone from within the team in a hurry. To some extent, this was a sign that the current Spitfire players weren't up to par. It wasn't that they were bad, it was just that they weren't outstanding enough.

Ge Zhaolan unfortunately was one of the Spitfire players who had been deemed not good enough. But the good thing was that he wasn't an especially ambitious person. He knew his position very clearly, and something like this didn't affect him. He continued to work diligently for Void. And now, Void needed him to show his strength.

They lagged behind the other team 0-3 after the individual round. In the group arena, Ge Zhaolan and his Spitfire Transparent would lead the battle for Void.

And Happy? Their first player in the group arena was Fang Rui, with his Qi Master Boundless Sea.

Happy's roster had basically been figured out by all of the opponents by this point. In the individual round and group arena, Ye Xiu, Su Mucheng, Fang Rui, and Tang Rou would always appear.

There was no dispute over having the three All-Stars appear. Even if Fang Rui had been affected by his class change, it was exactly because of his class change that he needed more battles to improve more quickly. As for Tang Rou, despite her infamy, objectively speaking no one dared underestimate her strength onstage. But after that promise-breaking incident, people suddenly had higher expectations of her. As long as she didn't 1v3, in everyone's eyes it was a weak chicken performance. 1v1.5, 1v2, these performances were normally impressive, but if it was Tang Rou, everyone would just laugh and say: look, that person who wanted to 1v3, couldn't even do a 2.5, how weak...

In this match's individual round, Ye Xiu, Steamed Bun, and Wei Chen had appeared onstage. Thus, it was already clear who would be appearing in the group arena. Now, Fang Rui was first onstage.

The map selected for this group arena battle was relatively open, a bit better for unobstructed sight than Su Mucheng needed and the simple direct confrontations that Tang Rou liked. However, this map didn't have any of the complex features that Fang Rui needed for his dirty playing.

This was also a difficulty in picking a map for the group arena, and was also a factor to consider when deciding the player order.

Fang Rui was the sacrificed piece in Happy's selection of this map. After entering the battle, he had Boundless Sea charge right towards the center of the map. It looked like he wasn't about to try and force some dirty playing onto this relatively simple map.

The two sides' characters quickly met at the center of the map. A Spitfire didn't have too many demanding requirements of a map, and Ge Zhaolan, this rejected player, didn't have a particularly distinctive playstyle, he was right in the middle. Seeing that this was the map, he simply controlled his character to head right toward the center. When he spotted Fang Rui's Boundless Sea, he calculated the distance, and as soon as he entered the Spitfire's attack range, Transparent lifted his gun without any hesitation.

Gunshot, Boundless Sea ducked to the ground. That rolling and crawling Thief-like moving style once again appeared with this Qi Master Boundless Sea.

The audience applauded. This Qi Master style that Fang Rui had invented had already attracted attention and a few imitations.

To ordinary players without any sort of high-end in-depth background, they just made their best approximations, drawing a tiger like a dog. But in the professional circle, the Qi Masters who saw Fang Rui's current playstyle could only shake their heads. They didn't reject his style altogether, but this kind of style was just entirely different from their habits. This sort of rolling and crawling was only familiar to Fang Rui. If they had to do the same, they would all feel that it was strange.

And this kind of playstyle wasn't as simple as making such postures. After some detailed analysis by some so-called experts, they all concluded that this sort of playstyle was closely linked to Fang Rui own personal qualities.

Chapter 1225: Darkness and Light

What were Fang Rui's qualities?

If this question were posed to one hundred Glory players, approximately one hundred answers would be "dirty," without any hesitation.

This of course wasn't wrong, but the analysis by the so-called experts wouldn't be so unspecific. They used many technical details to pick out what qualities Fang Rui had, and the conclusion they reached was: this playstyle fits Fang Rui exactly, but possibly would not fit anyone else.

Those that supported this view included the previous Qi Master All-Star, Zhao Yang. Although he had already retired, he hadn't stopped paying attention to Glory, and the reporters that were close with him

easily obtained his views on Fang Rui's Qi Master. Zhao Yang believed that even he himself had no way of playing Fang Rui's style of Qi Master, and that it truly was a unique style that arose from the player.

What would be the fruits of this playstyle?

As of now, Fang Rui growing accustomed to his new playstyle was an indispensable contribution to Happy's recent strong performance. After being thrown off by Ye Xiu's unspecialized Lord Grim, the various members of the Alliance now faced another playstyle that they couldn't immediately understand, that caused them just as much difficulty as Lord Grim.

Losing wasn't scary. But losing without knowing why you lost, that was scary. This meant that you had no way of obtaining experience and improving.

And because of Happy, the Alliance players felt this strongly. The unknown unspecialized, the chaotic Steamed Bun, and now this new playstyle from Fang Rui.

This new team was really very new. New people, new characters, even new playstyles.

How to counter this entirely new element? The teams all spent time to study and try and figure out. But each team had 19 opponents in the Alliance, not just Happy. In the end, no team would do too much study or have too much focus on just one team. They had to follow the rhythm of the match schedule. Whatever team they were about to face, they would focus on defeating that team. And so Happy took advantage of this; after stabilizing their style they accumulated points like crazy. Now at Round 14, their footsteps hadn't slowed at all. Void's first player in the group arena, Ge Zhaolan, went down rapidly, having only knocked away 37% of Fang Rui's Boundless Sea.

A beautiful opening. The cheers from the crowd sent the dejected Ge Zhaolan offstage.

Li Xuan sighed and shook his head, his gaze falling upon the one at his side. His closest friend, his best partner, but at the same time the one who was in conflict with him for the title of number one Ghostblade. Wu Yuze.

"It's up to you," Li Xuan said.

Void's next players were Wu Yuze and himself. Right now, Happy had a significant lead, with 2.63 people remaining.

Wu Yuze nodded. Without saying anything else, he stood up and resolutely headed toward the stage.

The Happy supporters in the crowd gave vocal support to their home team, and of course they would also boo the Void players to disrupt them. But Wu Yuze seemed as though he already had a natural defense against booing. His steps were very steady, and when he crossed paths with Ge Zhaolan, he even paused to say some words to him. He wasn't affected by the atmosphere of the stadium at all.

Wu Yuze quickly arrived onstage, entered the competitor booth, and logged on to his character.

Ghostblade, Carved Ghost. Among the recent All-Star characters, one of the only two female ones.

"Bring it, Miss Wu!" So when the battle began, Fang Rui immediately used this to trash talk.

Wu Yuce didn't reply, and Carved Ghost moved along the map. And Fang Rui? He didn't seem to hope for any response from Wu Yuce. As he tossed this bit of trash talk, he controlled Boundless Sea to rush forward.

In reality, Fang Rui wasn't too unfamiliar with Wu Yuce, as they had debuted the same year. But although both of them had proven themselves from the beginning within their respective teams, neither of them could compete with that other rookie from their year.

That year, Zhou Zekai made his dazzling debut on the professional stage. In his first season, he had carried the mediocre team Samsara into the playoffs.

What were Fang Rui and Wu Yuce up to during that time?

Fang Rui arrived at Wind Howl, initially as the successor to Lin Jingyan's Demon Subduer, but in that first season, Fang Rui revealed his talent for the Thief class. And so, he settled on becoming a Thief player, stepping on the road to becoming an All-Star player.

And Wu Yuce? When he first arrived at Void, the team had also wanted him to play a different class, but Wu Yuce refused to cooperate, insisting that he wanted to play Ghostblade. But Void at that time already had Li Xuan, a Ghostblade player from the Golden Generation. Wu Yuce's behavior was viewed as extremely unwise and provocative. He had been treated coldly at the beginning, until, by chance, he obtained an opportunity to go onstage. With that battle, the team finally began to reevaluate its position toward him, and they decided... having two Ghostblades wasn't impossible. From there, the double Ghostblade partnership was slowly established.

Neither of these two players' beginnings were as shining as Zhou Zekai's; they each had their own twists and turns, but they reflected the different attitudes of the two players.

Fang Rui was very casual. He played a Qi Master at Blue Rain, then was raised by Wind Howl to play a Brawler, and then when he finally became a full pro player, he found that Thief suited him, so he became a Thief... It could be said that Fang Rui was constantly compromising, but in the current pro player environment, if a player who hadn't yet made a name for himself wanted to be valued by the team, most anyone would choose this kind of compromise and obedience. And Fang Rui, his compromise and obedience was a bit more than normal, as evident by how many twists and turns there had been from his training camp days to becoming a full pro player. In the end, he succeeded. But this guy, after succeeding, changed classes again. With his current status and position, his class change generally wasn't viewed as compromise and obedience. Yet Fang Rui felt that this wasn't much different from what he had done in the past.

Wu Yuce didn't have much in common with Fang Rui. He hadn't gone along with the team's needs, instead stubbornly sticking to his choice. Most teams would perhaps directly give up on a player like this, but Wu Yuce's luck wasn't bad. He entered the team like this, maintained his decision, and then afterwards, he waited for an opportunity and seized the opportunity. His persistence paid off, and he too walked upon the road to becoming an All-Star.

Two entirely different paths, but they had both resulted in equally excellent All-Star players. And now, the two met. Fang Rui's playstyle was like his own character, casual, and so he became the master of

playing dirty. Wu Yuze, on the other hand, was tough and unyielding, thus his Ghostblade also exuded a toughness from the bones.

Fang Rui only tossed that one word of trash talk when Wu Yuze first entered because Fang Rui was clear that this was someone who wouldn't be disrupted by trash talk at all. His personality was just that tough. As a rookie, he had dared to stubbornly refuse the plans of his team - this wasn't something that any player would be brave enough to do.

The two sides quickly met at the center of the map. Without any further interaction, they began fighting. Boundless Sea began Fang Rui's trademark Thief-style posture and movement, and before the opponent used a skill, a Qi Bullet was sent flying toward him.

Ghost Slash!

It was met by a Ghostblade's Ghost Slash. A magic aura rippled from the blade, directly travelling through the Qi Bullet.

The Qi Bullet wouldn't be completely dissipated by the priority of that attack, and it continued to fly toward Carved Ghost, but Carved Ghost's slash also continued toward Boundless Sea.

With a bang, the Qi Bullet landed upon Carved Ghost. He hadn't tried to dodge at all, doing everything he could to send this Ghost Slash onto Boundless Sea.

This guy!

Fang Rui grit his teeth. The Ghostblade wasn't very suited to hard and direct fighting, since it wasn't a class with high defense or health, but Wu Yuze still preferred this method, as it suited his personality.

But Fang Rui hadn't expected this kid would be so fierce right from the start.

He wanted to dodge this attack, but if he did, Carved Ghost's second attack would arrive instantly, and Wu Yuze would have the initiative. He refused to let that happen!

Fang Rui inputted controls and activated Reinforced Iron Bones on Boundless Sea, taking the brunt of Carved Ghost's Ghost Slash.

Qi Blade!

Boundless Sea sent this attack just when he was hit by the Ghost Blade. But at this point, Carved Ghost was still surrounded by the ghostly aura from using the Ghost Blade. Through the mist of purple, this Qi Blade carved a clearly visible path.

Carved Ghost leaned to the left.

Heh, it won't be so easy. Fang Rui smiled coldly. The Qi Blade suddenly twisted toward the right, instantly cutting Carved Ghost.

But even after taking this attack, Wu Yuze didn't stop attacking. Even as Carved Ghost was hit by the Qi Blade, the blade in her hand was still sent out.

Ice Seal Ghost Slash!

The difference between Sword Demon and Phantom Demon was that Phantom Demons summoned the Ghost God's power to create effects, controlling or damaging the opponent. Sword Demons, on the other hand, directly applied the Ghost God's power to their blades, increasing the damaging power of their slashes.

Ghost Slash, Moonlight Slash, Full Moonlight Slash, these were the three slashing attacks that Ghostblades could learn under level 20. And Sword Demons could apply any type of Ghost God power to these three slashing skills.

Carved Ghost's attack just now applied ice spirit power to the blade, thus creating an Ice Seal Ghost Slash. The blade emitted faint blue icy mist, which was sent several body units outward with the slash. Although Boundless Sea was already rolling, he was still hit by the icy mist, and his movement speed decreased significantly.

Flame-Bitten Full Moon!

Carved Ghost slid forward and made another slash, this time invoking the spirit of fire along the blade and using a Full Moonlight Slash. The enchanting fire spirit power swept in the shape of a full moon, but it wasn't very eye-burning. These flames conjured from magic weren't a pure scarlet, but carried some dark purple within. But their power would be even stronger, because it wouldn't just deal fire damage, it would also carry the dark damage inherent to a Ghostblade.

Flame-Bitten Full Moon, slash down!

Qi Guard!

A tangible protective shield suddenly expanded around Boundless Sea, blocking the Flame-Bitten Full Moon.

If Ghostblades were said to be naturally dark-aligned, then Qi Masters were naturally light-aligned. But the players playing these two classes right now...

The dark-aligned Ghostblade walked the direct and fierce path, while the light-aligned Qi Master was the representative of dirty playing.

Chapter 1226: A Loss, But A Spectacular One

he power of the Ghost God brought by the Flame-Bitten Full Moon battered against Boundless Sea's Qi Guard, but it could not suppress the radiance of the shield. The Qi Guard's defensive capabilities could hold against this attack.

Who would have thought that at this moment, a circle would appear below Carved Ghost? A wave of Ghost God energy suddenly rose and condensed onto the tip of his blade, supplementing the power of Flame-Bitten Full Moon.

Sword Boundary?

Everyone was stunned. No one had noticed Wu Yuce summoning this Sword Boundary.

Sword Boundary might be a low-leveled skill, but its supportive effects were top tier. Let alone a Phantom Sword Demon hybrid like Carved Ghost, even a pure Sword Demon would max this skill. This low-level skill had a very fast cast time. It could be used in between two attacks for a sudden damage buff.

Wu Yuze used it in this way. No one knew when he had cast the Ghost Boundary, but it had been set down after Flame-Bitten Full Moon. The buffs from Ghost Boundaries were immediate, and Flame-Bitten Full Moon dealt both physical and magic damage. Under the Strength and Intelligence buffs from the Sword Boundary, the power of the attack instantly shot up.

The radiance shining from Qi Guard dimmed.

Break!

The qi from the Qi Guard was consumed, and the remaining energy of Flame-Bitten Full Moon slashed towards Boundless Sea. Fang Rui immediately had Boundless Sea dodge, but Wu Yuze's follow up attack came soon afterwards.

Full Moonlight Slash!

This slash had finally come out. What Ghost God would be attached to it this time?

No ice. No fire. This Full Moonlight Slash was pitch black.

Dark Moonlight Slash. This time, Wu Yuze summoned the dark ghost. It stripped the light from the world, temporarily filling the area with darkness.

I can't dodge it!

Fang Rui instantly made this judgment. Wu Yuze's Carved Ghost had attacked one slash after the other. With even his Qi Guard forcefully broken, he had no way of dodging this attack.

If I can't avoid it, then we'll trade!

Just when the Dark Moonlight Slash was about to strike Boundless Sea, Boundless Sea raised his hands and used Sand Toss.

The damage from Sand Toss was insignificant compared to the damage from a Sword Boundary buffed Dark Moonlight Slash, but it would at least induce a blind effect similar to the Dark Ghost.

Pu!

Boundless Sea was the first to be hit. Darkness surrounded him, and Fang Rui's screen turned black as if his monitor was dead. However, the sound in his ears was still as clear as ever, so he knew that the fight had yet to stop. Soon after Boundless Sea threw sand at Carved Ghost, he could hear the tiny pattering of the sand colliding.

Did it hit? Did it blind him?

Fang Rui didn't know. He could no longer see anything, so he had Boundless Sea run for his life, while also shooting a Qi Bullet at a target he couldn't see. He just instinctively did something.

But soon, Fang Rui realized that his Boundless Sea was in the air.

He wasn't Blinded? Boundless Sea was hit by another attack. Such a tightly linked combo clearly could not be done by someone who was blind. From this, Fang Rui inferred that Carved Ghost had not been blinded by the Sand Toss.

The viewers could see everything clearly. Not only did the Blind fail, Carved Ghost didn't even eat the miniscule amount of damage from the Sand Toss. After Dark Moonlight Slash, a shadow circled around Carved Ghost, blocking the tiny particles of sand.

Ghostblade skill: Shadow Image.

The unaffected Carved Ghost continued his assault. Shadow Claw threw Boundless Sea into the air, and starting from the ghost slash up until the Blind effect wore off, Boundless Sea never fell from the air.

"I say, don't be too savage!" As soon as the darkness disappeared, Fang Rui's spirits rose. Even though he had taken quite a bit of damage from the combo, it was far from enough to extinguish his morale.

Boundless Sea's back faced the ground, welcoming Carved Ghost's sword. His two hands formed a ball of qi in front of his chest.

He's sneakily charging his attack again!

Quite a few people had gotten a grasp of Fang Rui's battle style now, and they were starting to discuss it.

Wu Yuce wasn't careless either. He knew exactly how long the Blind from Dark Moonlight Slash lasted, and once the effects wore off, if Boundless Sea's arms were suddenly raised to his chest, then...

Carved Ghost immediately slid to the side, adjusting his position first. He swung his sword, blocking off the angle at which Boundless Sea could attack with by twisting his body.

Who would have thought that Boundless Sea wouldn't twist his body. The ball of qi contained in his hands was let out just like that.

Sky Piercing Strike!

It really was Sky Piercing Strike. An intense wave of energy flew out towards the sky, leaving traces of spinning qi.

There was nothing in the air, so this Sky Piercing Strike obviously didn't hit anything. However, through its momentum, Boundless Sea suddenly accelerated towards the ground. The sealing attack from Carved Ghost missed.

Landmine Quake!

Right before Boundless Sea landed on the ground, his two palms once again charged up qi. He didn't even turn his view, and his two hands hit the ground before his body did.

The skill was released, and qi spread along the ground, striking everything within its range. Carved Ghost was no exception. The force coming from the earth shot up, flinging him to the side.

Quick Recover!

Wu Yuce had Carved Ghost roll on the ground, but Boundless Sea, whose hands hit the ground, rolled faster! For this sort of rolling and crawling on the ground movement, who could be more skilled at it than this master of playing dirty?

Carved Ghost was still flying in the air, when Boundless Sea reached his side.

Pulse Break: Break Intelligence!

One finger stabbed into Carved Ghost, lowering his Intelligence significantly.

Then, Flash Burst and Qigong Blast!

Two high-level skills landed on Carved Ghost one after the other. Qi whirled crazily around Carved Ghost, creating a cyclone of qi lifting the earth along with it. Carved Ghost didn't look like he had just been hit by an attack. It was like he was exploding forth with some sort of small Cosmo (Saint Seiya).

Fang Rui wanted to continue following up, but Wu Yuce quickly recovered. Being hit all of a sudden by such heavy attacks didn't seem to shake his willpower.

What a spectacular and evenly-matched fight!

Quite a few members of the crowd stood up, clapping for this fight. The fans wanted their own team to win, but that didn't mean they wouldn't show respect. High-level matches were a joy to watch. For this type of fight, even if their own side lost, they would leave the field with the least amount of regret.

In the end, Fang Rui walked down from the stage with this attitude from the crowd. He had lost, but the applause he won was as if he had been the winner. Even though he didn't win, facing a strong opponent like Wu Yuce brought Fang Rui's brilliant performance to new heights.

When people discussed Fang Rui's Qi Master playstyle, people wondered whether this new playstyle would be able to stand the test of time.

New playstyles would always have surprising results when they first appeared because everyone was still new to them. The best way to test whether or not a playstyle could become mainstream was through time. In the ten years of Glory, countless playstyles had come and gone. In the current state of Glory, the meta had matured and steadied. New playstyles were usually short-lived. The number of new playstyles that could last was becoming less and less.

Fang Rui's Qi Master playstyle had only been around for ten rounds. Could it truly become mainstream? The more conservative people weren't too optimistic about it. But in the fight that just ended, in the 1v1 against a skilled opponent like Wu Yuce, Fang Rui's playstyle shone as brilliant as ever. It could be considered to have passed a difficult test.

"Yay, I'm so happy!" Fang Rui clearly knew about the value of this fight. He had lost, but the implications for the future were huge. What's more, it couldn't really be said that he lost! He had taken out half the health of Wu Yuce's Carved Ghost. Fang Rui had achieved a 1v1.5, quite a good result. This was the group arena, which couldn't be judged from the outcome of a single battle.

"Mhm, nice job," Ye Xiu said.

"I really want to go up and play another round!" Fang Rui gripped his account card, with his desire to continue written all over his face.

"You can go ask him if he wants to play all night with you after the match," Ye Xiu said.

"Okay okay, that's a good suggestion. I'll text him." Fang Rui took out his cellphone in a hurry. As for Happy, their second player was Su Mucheng, who walked onto the stage with a smile.

Dancing Rain started at full health, while Carved Ghost started at half health. Launchers, with their extremely long-ranged attacks, could be considered as Ghostblade counters to an extent, as Ghostblades had very few movement skills. In the end, in another spectacular fight, Dancing Rain won with 67% of her health left.

Team Void's anchor for the group arena was unfortunately another Ghostblade. The Launcher's suppression over Ghostblades was still there. Su Mucheng usually played in the individual competition. Being moved to the group arena specifically for this match clearly showed Happy's intentions of countering Team Void's two Ghostblades.

A third of her health to take away Wu Yuze. Two thirds of her health to welcome Li Xuan.

Li Xuan was a Phantom Demon. He didn't have long-ranged attacks, and his opponent wasn't going to fight him at melee range. The boundaries that Phantom Demons could set down weren't really useful. He needed to take the initiative and find a way to close the distance between his opponent, but how could it be that easy...

The Ghostblade duo had been crushed in all sorts of ways by the Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng duo in the competition for Best Partners over many seasons. Ye Xiu? Even if he wasn't there, just Su Mucheng alone left them in pitiful states again and again. Su Mucheng was even nicknamed the Nemesis of the Ghost Duo.

This Ghost Duo wasn't in a general sense; it was specifically pointing towards these two from Team Void. Su Mucheng had much experience in dealing with Ghostblades, and was the source of much misery for these two.

From the looks of it, even after a season of absence, their nemesis was still a nemesis. She took out Carved Ghost's half health with a third of her health, and Li Xuan wasn't able to finish her off. Team Happy won the group arena with just two players.

"Ah..." Fang Rui would glance at his cellphone from time to time. Happy had won the group arena, but he looked depressed. "He hasn't replied back yet. It seems like he's not in a very good mood!"

With a lagging score of 0 to 5, who would be in a good mood?

Chapter 1227: The Two Towers

Of course Void wouldn't be in a good mood.

For the group arena, Li Xuan had tried to boost his team members' morale, but when he himself went up, he couldn't find his footing. He hadn't even gotten to see Happy's group arena anchor before being

blasted down by Su Mucheng, which made the whole situation quite awkward. The good thing was that all of Void's players were old members, and the newer member Ge Caijie was a mature and stable individual who knew that Su Mucheng was always a source of suffering for this team's captain and vice captain. There was no bitterness because of this.

They were losing 0-5. In the confrontation between these two directly competing teams, Void was completely lagging behind. If they lost again in the team competition, then this round would end with a ten-point difference between the two teams. As soon as a difference reached double-digits, it would always seem rather insurmountable. Even a difference of 10 points would provoke a much different feeling than a difference of 9.

"I think, no one here wants to be swept 10-0 by Happy?" Thus, this is what Li Xuan said to his teammates.

"Lose the team competition and we'll be overtaken; win it and we'll maintain our tie. I won't say any more about what we need to do. Get your spirits up, everyone, this isn't the time to hang our heads in dejection. Remember last round, remember round 11, we have the ability to defeat any team!"

Last round, Void defeated Misty Rain 8 to 2. In Round 11, defeating Tiny Herb 8 to 2 was the highlight of Void's season thus far. Li Xuan hoped to remind everyone of how they had defeated strong teams in the past in order to summon their confidence.

"Let's go! Let's win these five points!" Li Xuan said. Turning his head, he saw that Happy's players for the team competition had already stood and were walking onstage.

Ye Xiu, Su Mucheng, the pair that had completely defeated the Ghost Duo.

Fang Rui, who turned the light-aligned Qi Master into a dark and sneaky master of playing dirty.

Tang Rou, who hadn't been able to play in the group arena, had been waiting a long time to go onstage.

An Wenyi had always been seen as Happy's weak point, but after 13 rounds, had anyone managed to target this weak point to create any real danger for Happy? No, not at all, Happy's strategies always carefully created a protection for him. This kind of protection wasn't just a protection of his life and safety, it also protected his development. They tried to prevent any situations that An Wenyi couldn't handle, this was a principle that Happy's strategies always carried out, and it had already been analyzed by many specialists.

After these five, the sixth person was Steamed Bun, an incredible rookie who had demonstrated a level of luck approaching a miracle this round. Would he carry this luck to the team competition as well?

"Let's go!" Seeing that the opponent had already gone out, Li Xuan said this immediately.

Team Void, Li Xuan and Wu Yuce's double Ghostblade pairing would of course make an appearance. Then, there was the healer, necessary for any team competition; Void's healer was called Tang Lisheng, who used a Paladin called Soul Defender. As for the other three positions, Li Xun's position typically didn't change, and Ge Caijie's position was becoming more and more stable as he proved himself. He was even quietly becoming the axis around which Void's tactics revolved. For the final player, Void sent Yang Haoxuan, who had appeared in the individual competition earlier.

In this season, Void more often sent out Spitfire Ge Zhaolan as their sixth player, but in this round against Happy, they made special adjustments, sending out Launcher Yang Haoxuan instead, replacing Li Xun as one of the five players who would go onstage first. The intent of this adjustment was very clear. As expected, Void was extremely wary of Su Mucheng, so they also added a Launcher to their roster, so that both sides could be more equally matched in terms of long-range firepower.

The two teams' players went onstage. The team competition was the main event of each match, and there was a longer break beforehand to allow them to prepare. During this time, the players from each team often would chat while onstage.

"Why didn't you reply to my text?" Team Void's Wu Yuce received Fang Rui's greeting.

"My phone wasn't on," Wu Yuce answered.

"Oh, what time are you guys heading back?" Fang Rui asked. Void was in City X, rather far away from City H. Even though the Glory pro scene was rapidly developing, as of now, there was no team rich enough to have their own special charter plane or whatnot. Because Glory matches didn't have a set duration, it was rather difficult to make post-match plans. In order to let the players focus on the match, most guest teams would choose to spend the night at the city before leaving if their home city was far away.

"Tomorrow." Indeed, Void had made such plans.

"After the match is over, let's play a few rounds!" Fang Rui didn't send another text, and just directly asked for a match.

The others stared, dumbfounded, as they watched these two arrange a private fight before this match had even ended. To the side, the listening judge also felt that there was something wrong with this, but he also couldn't find a rule to prevent this, so he could only glare at the two of them.

Fang Rui was the only one proposing the fight. Wu Yuce, who was dragged under the harsh look of the judge simply because he was the one being invited, felt that he was unjustly wronged. He didn't say any more to Fang Rui, only tossing out a "we'll talk after" before heading with the rest of his Void teammates to the competitor booths.

Soon enough, the two sides were both ready and the countdown began. Five seconds later, the battle officially began.

The map was The Two Towers.

Void spawned at the northeast corner, Happy at the southwest. The two corners were directly opposite each other. The northwest and southeast corners were in a more sunken basin, and each corner had a rock forest. At the center of the map, the directly opposite ten o'clock and four o'clock directions each had a stone watchtower, from which this map took its name.

The two watchtowers were at the same height, and their distance from each other was within the firing range of a Launcher. These high points were clearly designed for a Launcher to use suppressive attacks with their firepower. Seeing this map chosen, Void could only grit their teeth. It was clear that Happy also knew that Su Mucheng was the greatest threat to their Ghost Duo, and they had chosen this map to maximize Dancing Rain's firepower coverage.

But in this round, Void also sent out a Launcher. Who didn't have firepower coverage?

"Go!"

Li Xuan gave his orders and Void's five swiftly began moving toward the map's center, wanting to get to the watchtowers as quickly as possible.

The two watchtowers were equidistant from the two teams' spawn points, for the sake of fairness. Void's players were confident that their movement speed wouldn't be any slower than Happy's, but as they rushed out of the northeast corner and the four o'clock tower came into clearer and clearer view, they suddenly saw a silhouette appear at the top of the watchtower.

Dancing Rain had one foot on the floor and the other propped against the guardrail of the watchtower. Shouldering her heavy cannon, her hair billowing in the wind, how was this such a valiant and heroic sight?

Su Mucheng's Launcher arrived at the 4 o'clock tower cleanly before Void.

How was she so fast?

Void's players weren't too confused. There was only one way she could arrive so quickly: Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain hadn't travelled at the same pace as the rest of the team; she had charged here alone to seize this watchtower. Travelling alone was always faster than travelling with a group. The movement speed of a character didn't just come from equipment - skills that aided movement would help increase a character's speed significantly. And Clerics and Paladins, these two healing classes, didn't have such skills. They were the short legs of the 24 Glory classes. The movement of an entire team, in order to protect the healer naturally couldn't be fast.

Void could have also sent their Launcher to move solo. But if both sides sent out one player in advance, then those two players would meet first. Yang Haoxuan duelling Su Mucheng... Li Xuan couldn't say that he didn't believe in his own teammate, but perhaps because he was always a victim of Su Mucheng, he dreaded her. And Yang Haoxuan was crucial for this team competition, so he didn't dare send him out to take on Su Mucheng by himself. Void moved as a whole team, and Su Mucheng boldly arrived first.

"How brave, everyone forward!" After giving a word of praise, Li Xuan ordered the whole team forward.

If they weren't shocked, that meant that they had predicted this situation. And if they had predicted this, would they have no plan? Void's five players instantly scattered, surrounding the 4 o'clock tower as quickly as they could. Tang Lisheng's Paladin quickly fell behind, and he looked a bit like a stumbling old man as he took the road furthest to the left. But after passing a certain point on the road, this character suddenly increased in speed drastically, starting to run with an unimaginable speed.

How?

After everyone was stunned for a moment, the display screen clearly identified in the close-up that this character was no longer Soul Defender. Void had actually boldly switched characters. The Paladin's sharp leftward movement wasn't to avoid Dancing Rain's attack range, but to reach the support zone. The Paladin left battle, and Li Xun's Assassin Ghost Lantern switched in. With a Swift Run and Swift Movements, wasn't this Assassin's movement speed a solid 1.5 times faster than the Paladin's?

With this, Void's plan couldn't be any clearer. They had guessed that Su Mucheng would arrive solo to claim a watchtower, so they gave her that chance. Then, they directly switched out their healer, five characters would attack at once to try to take Dancing Rain down first!

The two Ghostblades activated Ghost Step, the Exorcist Blue Exorcist used a Speed Talisman, the Launcher Translucent used Aerial Cannon, the Assassin Ghost Lantern felt that Swift Run and Swift Movements weren't enjoyable enough and used a Shining Cut as well. Five characters, through their individual methods, reached their top movement speeds, instantly converging upon the 4 o'clock watchtower. Their positions had also clearly been planned in advance. From Su Mucheng's high ground, she could stop one of them, but she couldn't simultaneously attack all five.

And so Su Mucheng ignored four of the players and focused her firepower on Li Xuan's Phantom Demon, Crying Devil.

Under the firepower suppression, Crying Devil naturally couldn't continue forward easily, and quickly fell behind the other four. But those four had already swiftly approached the 4 o'clock tower, and Yang Haoxuan's Translucent was already occasionally lifting his cannon to fire attacks toward Dancing Rain at the top of the tower.

"Successfully in position!" As expected of the fastest class, the Assassin. Even though he had a late start because of Tang Lisheng's Paladin, he had actually reached the bottom of the tower first. As he reported in the chat, Li Xuan controlled Ghost Lantern to circle around the base to reach the stairs behind it. But when he circled around, Li Xun instantly came to a halt.

This... this... aren't there too many people here?

Behind the watchtower, one, two, three, four... Happy's four players were in formation and waiting for him...

Chapter 1228: A Risky Move

Li Xun's shock couldn't be described with just words. Speaking of which, only Team Void's six players didn't know about the four Happy players hiding. Even the Team Void players sitting at their bench had seen Happy's movements through the viewers' omniscient view. Unfortunately, they couldn't inform their teammates on stage. They could only run around in circles anxiously like cats on a hot tin roof.

As for the crowd?

They didn't feel shocked like Li Xun. They could only wait expectantly for Team Void to rush forward and run into an unexpected situation. And now, the time had finally come.

This was the climax of the script!

When Li Xun's Ghost Lantern ran past the watchtower and came across Happy's four players, the crowd fired up.

Li Xun only needed a glance to understand what had just happened because the four characters waiting here were Lord Grim, Boundless Sea, Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion.

Yes, no healer. They had no one slowing them down. Happy came up full force. It wasn't just Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain, but everyone. As for Little Cold Hands? He had probably switched with Steamed Bun Invasion as soon as the match started... the starting spawn point was also the support zone.

1v4?

Li Xun wasn't that naive, but what should he do now? He had run here as fast as he could, so his movement skills were all on cooldown. He couldn't escape nor could he beat them. He had to hurry and inform his teammates of his situation.

"Trapped!"

Li Xun chose to use the most concise way possible to notify his teammates as Happy's four character threw themselves at him.

Trapped? Did they need a reminder? Team Void's four other players weren't far from Li Xun's Ghost Lantern, so they saw the ambush from Happy's four players. Everyone was stunned.

Ghost Lantern was surrounded in an instant. Team Void was now at a huge disadvantage.

How did this happen?

Li Xun wasn't famous for his tactical skill, and he didn't like to take risks. He quickly felt the difference between the two team's tactical levels.

The difference was "risk"!

When the match started, Void could have sent their Launcher, Yang Haoxuan, to fight for this position, but because they didn't want to risk it, fearing that Yang Haoxuan would be suppressed by Su Mucheng. Thus, the team spread out further to be safer.

As for Happy? They directly abandoned their healer and made a beeline towards this position to get there as fast as possible. Without Void knowing, Happy arrived, while having Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain make a feint towards the high grounds. Happy had played extremely risky. If Void hadn't impatiently tried to take down Dancing Rain and continued their advance forward, even if Dancing Rain held the high grounds, being without a healer wasn't something that a skilled support character could make up for. In fierce close combat, Launchers could not stop a relentless offensive.

Unfortunately, Void didn't do this.

They did not dare risk it, but they did not steadily advance forward either. When they saw Su Mucheng take the high grounds, they viewed it as their opportunity to victory, so they started moving full speed ahead, even switching out their healer for a damage dealer midway.

The risk they took had been after seeking for stability. Compared to Happy, who risked it all at the start, their risk had been much smaller.

Ghost Lantern was instantly surrounded. Void's other four players immediately understood the situation too.

What should they do?

"Rescue!"

Li Xuan typed a single word in chat.

They had no choice but to save him. Li Xuan alone probably had no chance of escaping a 4v1 situation. If he died, it would become a 5v6. Although Void could have their sixth player sub in, it would still be a 5v5. However, Happy would have an extra player as a backup, allowing them to play more forcefully to take the initiative. Forcing the two sides to trade would be disadvantageous for Void.

Thus, at this moment, Li Xuan didn't choose to retreat, instead calling for everyone to hurry over. After all, the rest of Void wasn't that far from him. With a ghost boundary placed down, Li Xuan felt like he should be able to quickly find an opening for Li Xuan to get away.

Ice Soul!

Li Xuan's character was the number one Phantom Demon in Glory, Crying Devil. The Silver weapon in his hands Four Heavenly Wheels strengthened three elements, Fire, Ice, and Darkness. The glittering ice crystals swept over the darkness of Ghostblades. The cast time was extremely short too; the Ice Boundary was set down almost instantly.

However, almost instant meant it wasn't instant. The moment the Ice Boundary started to form, Li Xuan saw a grenade at his feet.

The grenade exploded. Crying Devil dodged it, but the Ice Boundary failed to be placed down. Li Xuan looked upwards and saw Dancing Rain's long hair and clothing fluttering in the wind at the top of the watchtower.

She really is our nemesis! Li Xuan sighed, but...

A shadow flickered past Crying Devil, practically the instant the grenade exploded. Ice crystals flowed from the tachi in his hands; it just wasn't as dazzling as Four Heavenly Wheels.

Carved Ghost's weapon, Heavenly Crimson Lotus strengthened fire element skills. His Ice Boundary wasn't skilled very high either, so the ice crystals swirling around Heavenly Crimson Lotus didn't look as glamorous. Moreover, compared to Crying Devil, Carved Ghost's cast time was a bit slower. But at this moment, the phantom soul from Heavenly Crimson Lotus flew out, forming the Ice Boundary. The area surrounding Ghost Lantern froze into ice.

Who could be more skilled at coordinating with boundaries than Void's Ghostblade duo? Whether it was each other's thoughts, habits, or characters, the two had reached the point of perfection. They no longer needed to speak to communicate.

Crying Devil, the number one Phantom Demon, had just been cover. The one to actually lay down the Ice Boundary was Carved Ghost. In that instant, Void completed an extremely beautiful display of teamwork.

How could Happy not retreat from an Ice Boundary?

The threat of Carved Ghost's Ice Boundary might be slightly lower, but its effects couldn't be ignored.

However, Happy didn't retreat.

Fang Rui's Boundless Sea swung both his arms, creating a Qi Guard. This Ice Boundary had been blocked by it. The two opponents who fought intensely in the group arena once again clashed in the team competition.

The ice energy struck the Qi Guard, but the power of Carved Ghost's Ice Boundary was limited. It evidently could not break through Boundless Sea's Qi Guard. The skill used to try and save Ghost Lantern as soon as possible was blocked.

Missing this opportunity, Ghost Lantern took more damage. Li Xuan's Crying Devil charged forward to place down another boundary, when he heard the whistle of missiles flying above his head. Dancing Rain let out all of her firepower towards the two Ghostblades.

The two dodged, one to the left and the other to the right. They ignored Dancing Rain and continued to charge towards the encirclement. Ge Caijie's Blue Exorcist waved his hands and took out his scythe. Lightning descended from the sky and gathered on the scythe. He had clearly placed a Lightning Talisman on it.

Qi Guard was unable to completely block this attack. A Soul Guidanced weapon had very high priority. It couldn't be blocked by a normal attack, but among the ones that could, another Soul Guidance was naturally included!

Inside the encirclement, Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella left his hands and spun towards the scythe.

The two skills collided. It could be seen that Lord Grim's Soul Guidance priority was slightly weaker. After all, he wasn't an Exorcist. However, this collision stopped Blue Exorcist's attack from reaching its desired location. Although it didn't completely block it, it helped the others in Happy dodge this attack.

After this collision, the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella was recalled back by Lord Grim and started hitting Ghost Lantern's head again. Along with a Fling, Ghost Lantern was thrown out. However, before Void could be happy about it, they saw that the others in Happy had prepared in advance for this toss and were already heading towards there. Ghost Lantern wasn't even able to land on the ground before Steamed Bun Invasion grabbed him with a Strangle.

Happy focused their attacks, while moving with their target. Turning around the watchtower dumbfounded Void's Launcher. Yang Haoxuan had just been about to launch a Satellite Beam, but with this turn, he no longer had any vision of them. However, he wasn't able to stop himself in time and the Satellite Beam was still completed. In the end, it awkwardly landed on Carved Ghost's head, who was chasing after them. On the watchtower, Su Mucheng took advantage of this Satellite Beam and shot him tumbling with a Laser Beam.

Carved Ghost and Crying Devil crossed each other and switched positions, while also using Ghost Step, which had gone off cooldown. The two characters sprinted, leaving afterimages behind them, but Happy suddenly caught them off guard.

Shatter the Lands!

Tang Rou's Soft Mist leapt high into the air and let loose a high-level skill.

Who dared to take this skill head on? The two Ghostblades could only retreat. Soft Mist didn't continue fighting, after her attack got rid of them, she immediately went back to attack Ghost Lantern. Ta ta ta ta, Lord Grim fired a Gatling Gun to follow up. A shower of bullets spilled out happily.

Void was having a headache!

They thought that their Ghostblades, who specialised in controlling the field, would be able to quickly let Li Xun escape. Who would have thought that they would be forced into such a pitiful position. As a result, not only did they fail to rescue their teammate, they fell into a trap. They wouldn't be able to get a healer to support them in a short amount of time, but Happy? It was already Round 14. Everyone had seen Lord Grim suddenly wave his umbrella and cast a few heals before. No one would disregard his healing.

"Retreat!"

They had just yelled "Rescue!" and in the blink of an eye, it had turned into a "Retreat!" It couldn't be said that this was Li Xun hesitating. The circumstances had changed. Seeing that rescuing wasn't working and fighting would be difficult, they could only let go of one of their players and save their own lives so they could fight another battle.

Who would have thought that while Void had given up, Happy hadn't. Sensing Void's intentions, Happy abandoned Ghost Lantern and chased after them.

Chapter 1229: Team Void's Launcher

Team Void was still a pro team; even in retreat, there was strategy. They could not ignore the enemy as they backed away, and saw Lord Grim and Boundless Sea standing nearly mirrored, opening their palms with almost identical stances...

Cloud Grasping Fist!

And it was two at the same time!

Of Team Void's four players, besides Yang Haoxuan's Translucent, everyone else was within range of these two grabs. Luckily, they noticed their movements in time and hastily scrambled around frantically. If Cloud Grasping Fist could not be interrupted, the only other way to escape from it was to run around constantly so the enemy couldn't pinpoint them. The qi released by Cloud Grasping Fist was completely invisible.

The attention of these three players were entirely focused on the two Cloud Grasping Fists, when they saw Yang Haoxuan roar in chat: "ABOVE!"

Above?

The moment they saw the message, they felt an abnormality in the lighting of their field of view, but it was already too late do anything. A Satellite Beam descended from the sky.

The three had only been focused on the two Cloud Grasping Fists, so for a moment, they forgot about Dancing Rain, who was above them. And the price for their mistake was painful. The central Satellite Beam struck Crying Devil, and the following smaller beams thoroughly disrupted their rhythm.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

Tang Hao's Soft Mist seized this opportunity to force her way into their ranks. Although her charge didn't hit anyone, her follow-up Tyrant's Destruction sent Blue Exorcist, who was busy dodging the rotating beams of light, flying away.

Blue Exorcist lost his balance. However, Tyrant's Destruction wasn't a grab skill that locked the body. As Blue Exorcist flew in the air, Ge Caijie hastily regained his balance. In this instant, Ge Caijie's calmness showed. The Soul Guidanced scythe flew out, not towards Soft Mist, nor was it to stop Happy's counterattack. Instead, it was thrown to its max distance, towards Steamed Bun Invasion, who had pinned Ghost Lantern to the ground was beating him up.

Lock Talisman!

A Talisman, which could help Li Xun break out from the assault, was attached to the scythe.

Li Xun and Ghost Lantern had already been abandoned, but because of the change in circumstances, Ge Caijie calmly made this decision. With Team Void's rhythm disrupted, this was a decision to disrupt Happy's rhythm. If Li Xun was saved, he could form a pincer attack with the rest of Void and again open up the enemy's formation. This was the best case scenario for Void's current situation.

Suddenly, a "biu" sounded. Ge Caijie looked up and saw a beam of light fire from Dancing Rain's cannon and accurately strike the scythe.

Soul Guidance had high priority, but the burst from Laser Beam was not weak either. This Laser Beam was unable to completely stop the scythe dead on its tracks, but it knocked it towards the ground. With a hum, the scythe stuck into the ground about half a unit away from Steamed Bun Invasion. The talisman on the scythe activated, but it didn't do anything. As for Steamed Bun Invasion? He didn't react until now. If Su Mucheng hadn't shot down the scythe, Steamed Bun, who was in the middle of beating up Ghost Lantern, would have most likely been hit.

If the attack had connected, the Lock Talisman would have taken effect. Void would briefly have a 5v4 situation, and the tides would turn. Ge Caijie's calm, swift decision was truly terrifying, however...

Looking up at that Launcher at the top of the watchtower, Ge Caijie was filled with awe.

He had joined the Alliance last season, just when Excellent Era had been relegated from the league. As a result, he had never fought against Su Mucheng's Launcher. Although there was quite some controversy over Su Mucheng in the public eye, Team Void had suffered under her hands and had nothing but praise for her. When Li Xun and Wu Yuce, his two seniors, had heard about Team Excellent Era getting relegated, Ge Caijie clearly heard them let out a "sigh of relief". The person who had given these two All-Stars such pressure was Su Mucheng.

What type of player is she?

Ge Caijie had always been curious about Su Mucheng?

And now, after personally going into battle against her, Ge Caijie could finally feel just how unbearable of an existence this top supportive player was. Li Xuan and Wu Yuce probably had the strongest feeling of this unbearableness.

Ge Caijie had nearly reverse the situation with Soul Guidance, but because of Su Mucheng's Laser Beam, his attack had been blocked. Team Void had scattered like sand. Right now, Yang Haoxuan, who had been picked for the team competition specifically to counter Su Mucheng, felt very ashamed of himself.

His purpose was to restrict Su Mucheng, but what had he done so far?

When the match started, Team Void had not sent him out to fight for the high grounds. Yang Haoxuan knew what the team had been worried about, but he didn't have the confidence to stand out and take the initiative to express that he could do it. If he had displayed this kind of courage and confidence, Yang Haoxuan knew that the team would have certainly given him the chance to prove himself. However, he hadn't. He had even felt glad that the team hadn't forced him to carry out this task. This was Yang Haoxuan himself not confident in himself, but at the same time, it was the shadow that Su Mucheng had placed in their hearts.

After the two sides started fighting, Su Mucheng occupied the high grounds and had an amazing field of view and position. However, it wasn't like Yang Haoxuan was sitting there doing nothing. He could also utilize his long-ranged attacks to suppress Su Mucheng. But from the looks of it, it seemed like he wasn't doing anything. At least, in the crucial moments, he hadn't displayed any usefulness. On the other hand, Su Mucheng had repeatedly disrupted Team Void several times.

It shouldn't be like this. What should I do?

Yang Haoxuan told himself that, but in this chaotic situation that he could read clearly, he wasn't able to make a precise and effective judgement. In the end, he was just a long ranged attacker, standing at the farthest and safest position, a decoration for their team's offensive prowess. Change the tides? Yang Haoxuan had neither the courage nor the confidence. Even if he had the ability to make a difference, the probability of it happening was unlikely.

Yang Haoxuan's Translucent stood there far far away as if he were truly translucent. Sometimes, he would throw some AoE attacks towards where the Ghost Duo were attacking. Sometimes, he would nervously look upwards to observe Su Mucheng's actions and then send a few attacks towards her.

"Yang Haoxuan, what exactly are you doing!"

Finally, Wu Yuce yelled out in the chat. This enduring vice-captain very rarely gave any orders or directions, perhaps he was intentionally avoiding it. After all, Team Void's Ghost Duo was a pair with debate over who was better. Wu Yuce didn't want to exceed his place and disrupt the balance by meddling in other people's matters. He very carefully kept a certain distance away from captain Li Xuan. His voice was oftentimes even less heard than the regular team members during a match.

But now, this vice captain had done what he rarely ever did. He spoke. Let alone, Yang Haoxuan, even the others felt a shiver in surprise.

"Focus on Su Mucheng. Don't bother with anything else!" Wu Yuce said with unwavering certainty.

Yang Haoxuan tensed up. He looked upwards with practically zero thought behind it and saw Dancing Rain aiming at a target from the edge of the watchtower. Yang Haoxuan didn't even think and shot a Laser Beam towards her.

An involuntary action was the fastest. Yang Haoxuan lifting up his head and Laser Beam was practically simultaneous because he had done it without any thinking at all.

When Su Mucheng saw Translucent look towards her, she didn't think the attack would be so fast. Laser Beam's speed was extremely fast too, flashing in front of her in the blink of an eye. Even if Su Mucheng wanted to dodge, it was too late. The Laser Beam struck her ferociously, pushing her off the watchtower.

"Beautiful!" Their captain Li Xuan was busy, but he took the time to praise Yang Haoxuan. Picking Yang Haoxuan to counter Su Mucheng was proof of his capabilities. Everyone approved of him. The problem was that he lacked the courage and confidence to face Su Mucheng.

Su Mucheng was said to be Li Xuan's and Wu Yuce's nemesis, and when they faced Su Mucheng, they cowered at times. How could the other players not show fear for Su Mucheng in this kind of atmosphere? What's more, Yang Haoxuan was a Launcher, while Su Mucheng was an All-Star Launcher. All Stars were chosen out of popular vote, but where did popularity come from? The foundation came from skill, so it was also a form of recognition towards a player's skill. Thus, Yang Haoxuan always felt like he couldn't compare to Su Mucheng. That was in addition to Team Void's atmosphere. Putting him to face Su Mucheng? Not having confidence or courage couldn't entirely be blamed on him. So the team tried to encourage him. When they saw this attack, their team captain immediately went out of his way to praise him.

Sure enough, this Laser Beam woke up Yang Haoxuan. Even though it didn't instantly make him feel like he was invincible, he had to do what he needed to do. His mind suddenly cleared up.

Wu Yuce roared at him to focus on Su Mucheng on nothing else, but this was just to point out how important it was. How could pro players only single mindedly work on one task? As a result, the instant Dancing Rain was blasted away, Translucent shifted his attention back to the other battles, providing support for his team. From time to time, he would pay attention to Dancing Rain.

Dancing Rain was pushed out of the watchtower, but Su Mucheng reacted extremely fast. She fired several cannon shots to counteract the knockback from the Laser Beam and slow her descent. Then, she used the Launcher's Rotor Wing, putting her back on top of the watchtower.

In Glory, character skill trees could be reset as long as you spent the money. Normal players might try to avoid doing so to save money, but pro teams wouldn't care about this bit of money. Whether it was to test out new skill setups or picking skills specifically to counter opponents, resetting skill trees was a common practice. Sometimes, it was possible to make surprising changes to one's playstyle. Li Xuan's Crying Devil was as Phantom Demon, but it wasn't like he had never reset his points and reallocated it as a Sword Demon. This sort of situation wouldn't happen too often though. After all, his Phantom Demon was his best character.

Su Mucheng had probably reset her skills to learn Rotor Wings specifically for this match! As Yang Haoxuan guessed, Translucent's cannon once again aimed towards the air.

Chapter 1230: Caution at the End

Boom!

The missiles flew out from the chamber and towards Dancing Rain, who was on top of the watchtower.

Fighting with the lower ground was very difficult, and many skills couldn't even be used. For example, Heat-Seeking Missiles would never be able to get so high and Stingers couldn't be launched so far either, otherwise these AoE attacks would easily send Dancing Rain toppling from her perch.

Yang Haoxuan, with the lower ground, was at a disadvantage. However, right now, his helplessness from before had been completely swept away, his attacks determined and confident, his aim precise. Three Anti-Tank Missiles were shot towards Dancing Rain's landing point.

Boom boom boom!

The three missiles exploded on the side of the watchtower just as Dancing Rain was landing. Dancing Rain, still airborne, couldn't dodge so far. The force from the three consecutive explosions threw Dancing Rain even higher. Su Mucheng hurriedly had Dancing Rain carefully bring her cannon muzzle around. She had to adjust Dancing Rain so that she could still remain on the watchtower when she landed.

As expected of Su Mucheng!

Yang Haoxuan fell into awe at Su Mucheng's mechanical skill, but he didn't plan on just admiring it. Translucent took out a gatling gun with a swish to follow up with another attack to the airborne Dancing Rain and send her completely off the watchtower. Currently, her Rotor Wing's was on cooldown, so there was no way she could fly back up.

Ratatatatatata....

The sound of bullets came rapidly, the frequency was so high that it was a little unbelievable... The rpm of this skill depended on equipment stats, not mechanics. Such high rpm meant that this couldn't be a skill from Translucent.

Tatatatata!

The bullets formed a line, shooting out from under the watchtower. On the other end of the line was Translucent's left hand, which was holding his gun.

Thud thud thud!

With sound of bullets hitting flesh, blood splashed everywhere. Translucent's left hand wasn't really blasted into smithereens, but it still couldn't take the momentum. Immediately, the bullets he was shooting into the air went off target.

"Damn it!" Li Xuan was depressed, cursing.

Yang Haoxuan had already done very well. His amazing performance had almost succeeded in throwing Dancing Rain off from the watchtower, yet this time, it was Li Xuan and co who failed. In this most

crucial time, they didn't give Yang Haoxuan the support he needed, allowing Lord Grim to destroy Translucent's offensive, with the exact same skill.

There was only one chance!

Under Su Mucheng's precise manipulation, Dancing Rain landed accurately back onto the watchtower.

"You should never neglect my presence!" Ye Xiu pointed out methodically but sarcastically. It was clear that the opening Void had given him this time was far too big.

Yes, too big.

Void's members were so focused on the trouble Su Mucheng was giving them that they had forgotten Su Mucheng was always only ever a supporting character, and the person she was supporting was the true core of the team.

Ye Xiu...

They had somehow forgotten Ye Xiu and given the opponent's core player such a large opening.

This mistake meant that Void had to suffer the terrible consequences. Dancing Rain, back on the watchtower, immediately threw out a Stinger. The stingers rained down like flower petals thrown by a goddess, and then Gatling Gun swept over them wildly, creating small pits in the ground. Yang Haoxuan's Translucent dodged around with his heavy cannon, flowers of blood occasionally blooming on his body.

Not grasping the chance meant an even worse blow.

Under Dancing Rain's cover, Happy focused everything onto offense. Tang Rou's Soft Mist broke right through the Ghost Duo's "Slash and Boundary", beginning a direct conversation with Crying Devil. Wu Yu'e's Carved Ghost wanted to come to the other's support, but Crying Devil suddenly vanished from sight, Lord Grim clocking the way with his umbrella.

Ge Caijie suddenly felt that this was a good chance, hurling a Sealing Talisman towards the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella. However, that was when he saw a message pop up in the chat: "Boss, careful!". A Brick smacked the back of his head and Blue Exorcist was stunned.

At the same time, Li Xun's Ghost Lantern was blown flying by a Flash Burst. Li Xun had wanted to sneak attack Boundless Sea, but Fang Rui was the master of this kind of dirty play. Noticing Li Xun's intentions, Fang Rui had purposefully given the other an opening. Li Xun's Ghost Lantern had come over all delighted, but went back, ridden with internal injuries.

Void's formation had been completely ruined, and the result was clear. Happy took advantage of the chaos Void had been thrown into, switching targets several times, and giving each member of Void a warm greeting.

This made Void depressed.

Happy, with the absolute advantage, didn't rush and hurry to get rid of a single opponent first, but open fired on all of Void.

If they focused their attacks and wiped out one of Void's members, then their healer would be forced to switch in. They wouldn't know what would happen in that short period of 4v5, but so long as they endured until their healer came, then they'd fight a 5v5 with a healer and have a chance to turn things around, even if they might be one character short.

But now, Happy launching an attack on everyone in Void's team cruelly deprived them of this unknown chance.

Void knew that they couldn't let Happy chip away at them like this, but apart from Yang Haoxuan's Translucent, none of the others had much of a chance to escape. Yang Haoxuan was trying to deal with Dancing Rain's supporting fire from above. After Wu Yuze had yelled at him, he had found his courage and was performing exceptionally well. They really couldn't have him leave to switch out with the healer.

They had to risk it!

That was when Li Xun suddenly activated Life-Risking Strike.

With how much of a mess Void was right now, there was no way to give him support and increase his chances of success. Under these circumstances, Li Xun still used this skill. Everyone immediately realized what he was doing.

He was sacrificing himself. If he managed to hit, then that would be amazing for their team, if he didn't, then Ghost Lantern, with only a sliver of life left, would soon make a noble sacrifice and their healer would be switched in.

As for ignoring Ghost Lantern and purposefully keeping him alive? That wasn't possible. If they kept a character they didn't dare get close to alive, then that would be equal to giving themselves a huge handicap. If Happy did decide to do that, then that would be like deciding to kill their own characters.

The situation ended up going in the most predictable direction.

Li Xun's Life-Risking Strike didn't hit and Ghost Lantern was immediately killed. Void's healer, Tang Lisheng's Paladin, Spirit Guardian, was switched in from the closest support zone, hurrying over.

However, in this short time, Happy switched tactics. They began to focus all their attacks onto one person. Could they manage to wipe out one of Void's players before their healer arrived?

This became the deciding factor, and everyone watched with wide eyes.

Void's core Ghostblade Duo weren't very tanky. Ghostblades utilized the power of the Ghost God to fight, finding their strengths in Spirit and Intelligence, then Strength, then Vitality. Then, their armor was cloth armor. Against physical damage, Ghostblades weren't much better than Elementalists and others.

At the same time, the Ghost Duo's Wu Yuze was a very headstrong and forceful fighter. In this moment, his playstyle had been grasped by Happy, and they immediately caught Carved Ghost and began to beat the other down.

Void was practically going crazy, trying to save him, however, Happy clearly didn't plan on switching tactics now. In the end Carved Ghost was finally caught by Steamed Bun Invasion's Strangle and thrown against the wall of the watchtower, allowing Happy to put everything into destroying him. During their

offensive, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim's presence once again shone through. Though it might be weak, it was better than nothing. The unspecialized Lord Grim was able to provide an important healing role. Void had realized that upon seeing Happy's no-healer arrangement.

They had realized, but they couldn't do anything against it. It wasn't like they could change Lord Grim's skill build.

In crucial moments, the few tricks Lord Grim had was enough to help Happy stabilize the situation. Wu Yuze's Carved Ghost eventually fell against the wall. Tang Lisheng's Spirit Guardian ended up being just one step too late.

6v4, currently a 5v4 on the field.

Void didn't want to give up though. Spirit Guardian healed the remaining three characters like crazy. Void was planning to make a final charge.

And then, Happy dispersed.

Yes, even Dancing Rain, on the watchtower, jumped down of her own volition, using her cannon to adjust her position in the air, gliding down smoothly.

Happy, who had the advantage, could retreat with ease, and at the drop of a hat.

Speaking of which, wasn't the direction they were retreating in the direction of the support zone on that end?

Seeing Void's healer arrive, Happy decided to not rush things and ran off to get their healer on the field, too. They really weren't planning on giving Void a single chance.

At the start, Happy had thrown their healer away to get to the best positions quicker, very brave, very crazy.

Yet, after getting the absolute advantage, Happy became cautious again. They, who were two people ahead of Void, went back to get their own healer.

Void couldn't stop the retreating Happy, chasing after them as the shadow of defeat grew within their hearts.

When Happy got to the support zone, Steamed Bun Invasion switched out for Little Cold Hands. Then, when they turned back to continue, Void's spirit had pretty much died. The battle ended quickly.

10 to 0!!!

The audience erupted.

Another 10 to 0. Happy really did it. After completing a 10 to 0 against Misty Rain, this time, they got another 10 to 0 against Void. Who would doubt Happy's strength now? If they did, they were probably blind! 10 to 0 after 10 to 0 couldn't be luck speaking!

The Happy supporters in the venue cheered wildly, raising an open-palm hand into the air, waving.

Five!

Their opened palms represented the number "five".

Five times!

This was the number of 10 to 0s that Happy had achieved so far. Such a flawless record was something that many powerhouses couldn't boast having. Currently, Happy was the only one, right?

Just as Happy's fans were excitedly confirming this with each other, a shocking piece of news came from another finished battlefield. Team Samsara, having also achieved a flawless victory against Team Heavenly Swords, had obtained their fifth 10 to 0 of the season as well.

With the thought that one of these 10 to 0s were won from Happy, everyone immediately felt that this was exceptionally annoying.

Their archenemy! Many people had this thought.